

DRAFT SUGGESTIONS AND COMMENTS RE:

INDEX OF U.S. RESIDENTS' FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION

Reference: S.I.G. Directive No. 10.

1. Problem: To establish a means whereby the foreign intelligence information held by residents of the United States may be catalogued for ready use by all Federal intelligence agencies.

2. Facts:

a. Present and potential residents of the U.S.A. and some visitors to it possess a wealth of information about foreign countries and conditions therein which constitutes a valuable source of information for Federal intelligence agencies.

b. During the war efforts to contact individuals of the type listed in a. above were intensified and much valuable information was obtained, however the card index records of the intelligence potentials of these individuals were either incompletely maintained or have since been destroyed.

c. Individual contacts were made largely by the field offices of the respective intelligence agencies either at the ports of entry or elsewhere.

d. Little coordination between agencies in contacting individuals existed during the war and little if any exists now.

e. Inter-agency dissemination of information received about and from individuals contacted is incomplete. Each agency works more or less on its own.

f. The State Department has no system for recording the intelligence potentials of individuals in the United States and no comprehensive system for interviewing them. *after they return.*

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g. The Navy has a well developed system for recording interviews conducted through their District Intelligence Offices, but the coverage is spotty and by no means complete. Furthermore personnel reductions now in prospect will further reduce the effectiveness of this service.

h. The Army (including air) maintains no card records of the intelligence potentials of individuals as a whole but through the Army areas interview likely prospects as far as their facilities permit and produce M/A type reports.

i. Forms now obtained from incoming passengers (citizens or non-citizens) by Immigration and Customs, by sea, air and land, from territories contiguous and non-contiguous to the United States contain some of the basic information needed by intelligence, but omit several vital items. There is reason to believe that some of their forms might be enlarged to provide the information necessary to provide starting material for an intelligence index.

3. Conclusions:

a. The foreign intelligence information of individuals in the United States should be indexed in such a manner that individuals with specialized knowledge, language ability or other aptitudes applicable to the development of our foreign intelligence knowledge, may be known and readily available when needed.

b. While each agency should maintain its own individuality and files of reports from interviews, a central index should be established to service all agencies.

c. The central index should be responsible for:

(1) Cataloguing on punch or other cards, the names and ^{foreign} intelligence potentials of all individuals in or entering the United States whose information might have value to intelligence.

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(2) Sending out general questionnaires to all prospects for the purpose of discovering the type and value of the information they have and maintaining a file of same for the use of the agencies concerned.

(3) Maintaining its index up to date and providing means for discarding old or obsolescent records.

(4) Maintaining a record of the reports obtained from interviews by the various agencies showing the subject matter and where they may be found.

(5) Preventing duplicating contacts of individuals by the respective agencies.

(6) Maintaining an evaluation record of the creditability of prospects and a general estimate of the value of the information they possess.

(7) Maintaining a record of the capabilities, intelligence wise (i.e. languages etc.), of prospects.

d. The Immigration and Customs forms could possibly be amended to fulfil intelligence requirements. However, the difficulty of separating valuable prospects from those of no value, due to the meagre information that could be included on such forms, leads to the conclusion that a new form (Information Register) should be adopted to be filled out by all incoming passengers other than transients or short term visitors and forwarded to the Central Index for scanning, selection and recording (see form Tab A). (Note - Will legislation be necessary to effect this?)

e. Each intelligence agency should provide means for:

(1) Contacting likely prospects turned over to it (upon request) by the central index, both in Washington and locally through the Army areas, DIO officers or State local representatives.

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(2) Preventing contacts with individuals until prospective interview has been checked with central index to prevent duplicating contacts by the respective Federal intelligence agency representatives.

(3) Security checking prospects before making contacts.

(4) Reporting on a standard form to central index the results of interview to include: Date, subject reported, value of report, credibility of prospect, where report is filed, dissemination made to other agencies, any other information which prospect has not at present recorded in the central index. (See form Tab B).

4. Recommendations:

a. That a central index of the foreign intelligence information possessed by individuals in the United States be established under the direction of the Central Intelligence Group.

b. That the functions for the central index as described in 3.g., 1-7 above, be approved.

c. That the relationship of the respective intelligence agencies to the central index and their functions in connection therewith as outlined in 3.g., 1-4 above, be approved.

d. That the form "Information Register" for all incoming passengers to the United States other than transients and short term visitors (see Tab G) be approved and put in use as soon as the necessary government arrangements can be made.

e. That the members of the Intelligence Advisory Board assign such personnel from their respective agencies to Central Intelligence Group as may be necessary for the establishment of a central index (See estimated T/C Tab D).

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